

METHODS, SYSTEMS, AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING MINIMALLY
INVASIVE CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS GRAFT SURGERY

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system for performing vascular surgery includes a first retractor blade and a
second retractor blade and a fulcrum device. The first retractor blade includes a first grasping
bar, and the second retractor blade comprises a second grasping bar. The first retractor blade
and the second retractor blade are adapted to engage opposing edges of a subcostal incision in
a patient. The fulcrum device includes a first fulcrum slot and a second fulcrum slot formed
10 through opposing edges of the fulcrum device. The first fulcrum slot is adapted to receive
the first grasping bar and the second fulcrum slot is adapted to receive the second grasping
bar, such that the fulcrum device is adapted to apply leverage from the first retractor blade
and the second retractor blade to spread the edges of the incision and to allow access to a
chest cavity of the patient.

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